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SCIENCE

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THE NEAR FUTURE OF BOTANY IN AMERICA¹

THE honor of the vice-presidency and chairmanship of Section G came to the speaker following the removal, by death, in 1916, of Professor T. J. Burrill, who was originally elected to preside at the New York meeting last year. We may fittingly pause for a moment to recall to memory the one who, had he been spared, would have addressed us on this occasion. Older than the present speaker by nearly thirty-five years, he would have spoken out of a rich experience to the profit of us all. He was, as you well know, a pioneer in the science of phytopathology, the discoverer of the first recorded bacterial disease of plants, a successful teacher and scientific administrator, and a man whose nobility of character and genial disposition endeared him to all who knew him.

The title of this address was chosen and the body of it completed before it had occurred to me to consult the Proceedings of the fifty-first meeting of the association to see what might have been the subject of the vice-presidential address at the preceding Pittsburgh meeting, in June-July, 1902. It is therefore doubly interesting to note that Dr. Galloway's subject was "Applied Botany, Retrospective and Prospective."

The pendulum of the Section has thus completed what my professor of physics used to call one complete swing-swang,

¹ Address of the vice-president and chairman of Section G, Botany, of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, Pittsburgh, December 29, 1917.